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# OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

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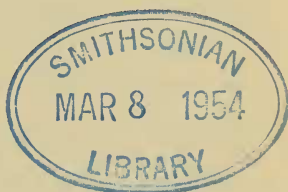
**FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.**

Secretary to the Commission

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## OPINION 200

Validation, under the Plenary Powers, of the accustomed usage of the generic names *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, and *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767 (Class Gastropoda)



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## OPINION 200

### VALIDATION, UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS, OF THE ACCUSTOMED USAGE OF THE GENERIC NAMES "TETHYS" LINNAEUS, 1767, AND "APLYSIA" LINNAEUS, 1767 (CLASS GASTROPODA)

**RULING** :—(1) The name *Laplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, is to be emended to *Aplysia*.

(2) The following action is hereby taken under the Plenary Powers :—(a)(i) The generic name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758, and (ii) all subsequent uses of the name *Tethys* prior to the publication of the name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, are hereby suppressed for the purposes both of the Law of Priority and of the Law of Homonymy. (b) The following specific names are hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy :—(i) the name *leporina* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Tethys leporina* ; (ii) all other uses of the name *leporina* in combination with the generic name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767 ; (iii) the name *limacina* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Tethys limacina* ; (iv) all other uses of the name *limacina* in combination with the generic name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767. (c) The following specific names are hereby suppressed for the purposes both of the Law of Priority and of the Law of Homonymy :—(i) the name *depilans* Linnaeus, 1767, as published in the combination *Laplysia depilans* ; (ii) all other uses of the name *depilans* in combination with the generic name *Aplysia* (or *Laplysia*) prior to the publication of the name *depilans* Gmelin, 1791, as published in the combination *Aplysia depilans*. (d) The generic name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, is hereby validated. (e) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby validated and are to be used in preference to any other names for the species respectively concerned :—(i) the name *depilans* Gmelin, 1791, as published in the combination *Aplysia depilans* ; (ii) the name *fimbria* Linnaeus, 1767, as

published in the combination *Tethys fimbria*. (f) All type selections for *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, and *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, made prior to the present Ruling are hereby set aside, and *Aplysia depilans* Gmelin, 1791, is hereby designated as the type species of *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, and *Tethys fimbria* Linnaeus, 1767, is hereby designated as the type species of *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767.

(3) The generic names *Aplysia* (emend. of *Laplysia*) Linnaeus, 1767 (gender of name : feminine), and *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767 (gender of name : feminine), with the type species severally designated therefor under the Plenary Powers in (2)(f) above, are hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as Names Nos. 630 and 631.

(4) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* as Names Nos. 5 and 6 :—(a) the name *depilans* Gmelin, 1791, as published in the combination *Aplysia depilans* ; (b) the name *fimbria* Linnaeus, 1767, as published in the combination *Tethys fimbria*.

(5) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* as Names Nos. 6 to 8 :—(a) *Laplysia* (Invalid Original Spelling of *Aplysia*) Linnaeus, 1767 ; (b) *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758 ; (c) *Tethys*, all uses of, subsequent to Linnaeus, 1758, and prior to Linnaeus, 1767, the entries in respect of items (b) and (c) to be subject to the conditions specified in (2)(a) above.

(6) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* as Names Nos. 2 to 5, subject to the conditions specified in (2)(b) above :—(a) the name *leporina* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Tethys leporina* ; (b) the name *leporina*, all other uses of, in combination with the generic name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758 ; (c) *limacina* Linnaeus, 1758, as

published in the combination *Tethys limacina*; (d) the name *limacina*, all other uses of, in combination with the generic name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758.

(7) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby placed on the foregoing *Official Index* as Names Nos. 6 and 7, subject to the conditions specified in (2)(c) above :— (a) the name *depilans* Linnaeus, 1767, as published in the combination *Laplysia depilans*; (b) the name *depilans*, all other uses of, in combination with the generic name *Aplysia* (*Laplysia*) subsequent to Linnaeus, 1767, and prior to the publication of the name *depilans* Gmelin, 1791, as published in the combination *Aplysia depilans*.

(8) The applications submitted in regard to the specific names *fasciata* Poiret, 1789, as published in the combination *Aplysia fasciata*, and *punctata* Cuvier, 1803, as published in the combination *Laplysia* [sic] *punctata*, are hereby postponed for further consideration<sup>1</sup>.

#### I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

The earlier records of the present case are incomplete, but it appears from those which survive that on some date in 1934, the late Dr. C. W. Stiles, then Secretary to the International Commission, received from Dr. H. Engel (*Zoologisch Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands*) a long and detailed application for the use of the Plenary Powers for the purpose of giving valid force to the current usage of the names *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, and *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767 (Class Gastropoda). It was beyond the capacity of the Secretariat of the Commission to bring before Commissioners so lengthy a paper, and this led to protracted delays in the consideration of this case. Ultimately, as explained in paragraph 10 below, an arrangement was made, in agreement with Dr. Engel, under which the late Mr. R. Winckworth (*London*)

<sup>1</sup> For the later consideration of these two names, see Hemming, 1952 (*Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 7 : 212—215). It is anticipated that decisions on these names will be reached by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature at an early date. (intl'd.) F.H. 16th November, 1953.

prepared a summary of Dr. Engel's paper. This summary was as follows :—

**PROPOSED SUSPENSION OF THE REGLES TO RETAIN THE NAMES "APLYSIA" AND "TETHYS" AS GENERIC NAMES IN THE SUB-ORDERS TECTIBRANCHIA AND NUDIBRANCHIA RESPECTIVELY OF THE ORDER OPISTHOBRANCHIATA (CLASS GASTROPODA)**

By H. ENGEL

(*Conservator, Zoologisch Museum, Amsterdam*)

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)22)

**Introductory.**

The present application was originally submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature under cover of a letter which I addressed on 10th January 1927 to the late Dr. C. W. Stiles, then Secretary to the Commission. After some preliminary correspondence Dr. Stiles informed me that the text of my application was too lengthy for him to be able to arrange for the reproduction of copies for circulation to the members of the Commission. In agreement with Dr. Stiles (communicated to me in a letter dated 16th November 1934) I then arranged for this application to be published in my own country, publication taking place in 1936 in *Temminckia* 1 : 221—266. In the same year (27th June) I communicated a number of separates of my paper to Dr. Stiles. Unfortunately, however, no progress was made by the Commission in the consideration of this case before the outbreak of war in 1939 necessarily involved a further delay.

After the war I received a letter dated 14th October 1945 from Mr. Francis Hemming, who had by then become the Secretary to the Commission, informing me that the Commission had established a journal of their own, the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, in which in future all applications submitted to the Commission would be published, in order to give zoologists generally an opportunity of commenting upon such proposals before any action thereon was taken by the Commission. At the same time Mr. Hemming informed me that my application, as published in *Temminckia*, was too long for re-publication in the *Bulletin* and that he had therefore asked Mr. R. Winckworth to prepare a summary which he hoped I would agree brought out clearly all the points which it was necessary should be brought to the attention of the Commission to enable them to reach a decision on the action to be taken. In due course Mr. Hemming communicated to me the summary which Mr. Winckworth had prepared. Subject to a few minor changes, the present paper is the summary so prepared. I wish to express my thanks to Mr. Hemming for all the work which he has done on this case.

The animals called Sea Hares or *Lepores marini* have been known at least since the days of Pliny. Linnaeus called them *Tethys* in 1758, but in 1767 changed the name to *Aplysia*, under which name they were universally known until 1895 and generally known to the present day. In 1895 Pilsbry (*Proc. Acad. nat. Sci. Philad.* 1895 : 347) tried to restore the name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758, but only a few systematists followed him, as the Tectibranch genus of sea hares are so widely known under the name *Aplysia*, while *Tethys* has been used since Linnaeus, 1767 for a well known Nudibranch mollusc from the Mediterranean, conspicuous because of its very large mouth veil. The present paper tries to show that it is desirable to place *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767 on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*, because the strict application of the *Règles* would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity. This requires the suppression of the generic name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758, the specific names *Aplysia depilans* Linnaeus, 1767, *A. fasciata* Poiret, 1789, and *A. punctata* Cuvier, 1803, and *Tethys leporina* are also discussed.

**The Genera and Species involved in the Case.**

As some confusion has already risen, it seems best to indicate the genera and species involved by reference letters. The animals are all common Mediterranean species, some of which are also found in the Atlantic.

<i>Names generally used</i>	<i>Names proposed by Pilsbry</i>	<i>Letter</i>
<b>THE TECTIBRANCH MOLLUSCS</b>		
<i>Aplysia</i> L.	<i>Tethys</i> L.	<b>A</b>
<i>A. limacina</i> L.	<i>T. leporina</i> L.	<b>a<sub>1</sub></b>
or <i>A. fasciata</i> Poiret		
<i>A. depilans</i> L.	<i>T. depilans</i> L.	<b>a<sub>2</sub></b>
<i>A. punctata</i> Cuvier	<i>T. punctata</i> Cuvier	<b>a<sub>3</sub></b>
or rarely <i>A. rosea</i> Rathke		

**THE NUDIBRANCH MOLLUSCS**

<i>Tethys</i> L.	<i>Tethis</i> Lamarck or a new name	<b>B</b>
<i>T. leporina</i> L. or sometimes		
<i>T. fimbria</i> Bohadsch	<i>T. fimbria</i> Bohadsch	<b>b</b>

*Note.*—For detailed descriptions and figures of the three Aplysiid species see Pilsbry, 1895, Tryon's *Manual of Conchology* 16 (62) : 69—73, where they are described as *Tethys depilans*, *T. leporina* (with *Laplysia fasciata* as synonym) and *T. punctata*.

No ambiguity can arise about the only known species of the Nudibranch *Tethys*, fully described by Bergh, 1875, *Sempers Reisen im . . . Philippinen* 2(9) : 345—362 as *Tethys leporina*.

## Texts of Linnaeus.

*Linnaeus*, 1758, *Systema Naturae* (ed. 10) 1 : 653.

254 TETHYS *Corpus* oblongum, bilabiatum : corpusculo medio cartilagineo oblongo.  
*Tentacula* duo, cuneiformia.  
*Foramina* duo, spirantia.

limacina. 1.T. auriculis quatuor.

*Habitat in Oceano Australi.*

*Corpus oblongum, antice quasi 4 auriculis acutis instructum.*

leporina. 2. T. corpore rubro, margine membranaceo, auriculis duabus.

*Rond. pisc.* 1. p. 520. *Lepus marinus.*

*Bell. aquat.* 437. *Lepus marinus.*

*Gesn. aquat.* 475. *Lepus marinus.*

*Aldr. exsangu.* 78. *Lepus marinus* 1.

*Habitat in M. Mediterraneo.*

*Conf. Column. aqu. t.* 26. f. 2, 3.

*Linnaeus*, 1767, *Systema Naturae* (ed. 12) 1(2) : 1072, 1082, 1089.

283 APLYSIA *Tentacula* 4. *Anus* supra postica.

289 TETHIS *Foramina* lateralia, sinistra, gemina.

283 LAPLYSIA *Corpus* repens, obvelatum membranis reflexis.  
*Clypeo* dorsali, membranaceo, pulmones obtegente.  
*Foramen* laterale, dextrum, pro genitalibus.  
*Anus* supra extremitatem dorsi.  
*Tentacula* quatuor, anterie sita.

depilans. 1. LAPLYSIA.

*Syst. nat.* 10. p. 653. *Tethys* limacina.

*Rond. pisc.* 1. p. 520. *Lepus marinus.*

*Gesn. aquat.* 475. *Lepus marinus* Rondeletii.

*Bohads. mar.* 3. t. 1, 2, 3. *Lernea graphice.*

*Seb. mus.* 3.t.1.f.8, 9.

*Habitat in M. Mediterraneo ; sanie depilans tactu.*

(B.51) foetidissima ad nauseam usque.

289 TETHYS *Corpus* liberum, oblongiusculum, carnosum, apodum.

*Os* proboscide terminali, cylindrica, sub labio explicato.

*Foramina* 2 ad latus colli sinistrum.

leporina. 1.T.labro ciliato.†

*Column. aquat.* 27.†.26. *Lepus marinus* major.

*Rondel. pisc.* 526. *Leporis marini* tertia species.

*Habitat in Mari Mediterraneo.*

fimbria. 2.T.labro crenulato.

*Bohads. mar.* 54.t.5.f.1, 2. *Fimbria.*

*Habitat in Mari Adritico.*

*Videtur a praecedentii distincta species.*



### Consideration of the Texts of Linnaeus.

In the earlier editions of the *Systema Naturae* Linnaeus seems to have known these animals from literature only, and there is considerable confusion between *Tethys*, *Tethya*, *Holothurium* and *Lerneae*. In the tenth edition (1758), the last two names were emended to *Holothuria* and *Lernaea*, while the *Lepus marinus* of Columna (B) is now removed from *Lerneae* and placed doubtfully under *Tethys* with the word 'Conf,' prefixed. The diagnosis of *Tethys* still contains the inapplicable words 'Foramina duo spirantia' surviving from earlier editions, where they refer to the ascidian *Tethya*.

There were two species of *Tethys* named in 1758. The first, *T. limacina*, seems to have been based on an animal in the possession of, or at least known to, Linnaeus, which served as the basis for the diagnosis of the genus and was a real sea hare (A).

The second, *T. leporina*, is based on literature and is intended to be the *Lepus marinus* of the older authors. The authors quoted are Rondeletius, 1554, *Libri de piscibus marinis* : 520, Bellonius, 1553, *De aquatilibus* : 437, Gesner, 1620, *Historia animalium* (ed. 2) 4 : 475 and Aldrovandus, 1606, *De reliquis animalibus exanguibus* : 78. Of these the first refers to a species of the genus A, probably  $Aa_1$ ; on page 526 two other kinds of sea hare are figured, one being a species of A and the other one of B. But the first animal may safely be regarded as the subject of Linnaeus' quotation, not only from the page reference, but because his diagnosis is based on the description of the first animal on page 521 : hence the allusion to two tentacles instead of four in Linnaeus' diagnosis, for Rondelet mentions the two dorsal tentacles, but the anterior tentacles are only indicated by the remark that the front of the head resembles that of a hammerhead shark. The reference to Bellonius seems to have been included simply because the animal was called *Lepus marinus* : it is not a mollusc but a Rhizostome jellyfish. Gesner's work is compiled from those of Rondelet and Bellonius. The reference to Aldrovandus is again to Rondeletius' first species.

Our conclusion about the use of these names in the tenth edition of the *Syst. Nat.* must be that the name *Tethys* is here used for the genus A, that the diagnosis curiously retains one character of the old ascidian genus *Tethya*, while the species are : (1) an animal, *T. limacina* which Linnaeus had himself seen, an *Aplysia* (A) from the South Seas ; (2) *T. leporina*, being the first *Lepus marinus* of Rondeletius, i.e., probably *Aplysia fasciata* auct. ( $Aa_1$ ).

The twelfth edition, 1767, of the *Systema Naturae* shows the influence of the work of Bohadsch, 1761, *De quibusdam animalibus marinis*, in which there is an excellent description of *Aplysia* (A) under the name *Lernaea* with figures of *A. depilans* ( $Aa_2$ ) on Tab. 1 and *A. fasciata* ( $Aa_1$ ) on Tab. 2, fig. 1, which are not regarded as separate species or named. Linnaeus changes the name *Tethys* to *Aplysia* (: 1072), which by an error is mis-spelled *Laplysia* on page 1082. The diagnosis is changed and corrected according to Bohadsch's description. Of

the species, the first, *Tethys limacina* Linnaeus, 1758, is identified with the second, the *Lepus marinus* of Rondelet, and they are united under the name *Laplysia depilans*. The list of references is corrected by the omission of Bellonius; a reference to Bohadsch is added, and also one to Seba. What Seba's animal was cannot be determined from the figures or the text.

Thanks to Bohadsch's chapter on *Fimbria*, which refers to the Nudibranch which I have called genus **B**, Linnaeus recognised these animals as a genus different from *Aplysia* (**A**). By a curious caprice he names them *Tethys*. There are two species. The first, *Tethys leporina* is based on Columna, 1616, *Aquatilium . . . animalium observationes*, who figures the species **Bb** on pages 22 and 26 as *Lepus marinus major*, and on the third *Lepus marinus* of Rondelet, 1554, page 526, which is also **Bb**. The second species *Tethys fimbria* is based on the *Fimbria* of Bohadsch, which he thinks seems to be distinct. We now know that the two species are one (**Bb**).

To sum up, we have now established the following facts:—

Linnaeus, 1758 :	<i>Tethys</i>	<b>A</b> with a mistake in the diagnosis.
	<i>T. limacina</i>	An indeterminate species of genus <b>A</b> .
	<i>T. leporina</i>	<b>Aa<sub>1</sub></b> (probably).
Bohadsch, 1761	<i>Lernaea</i>	<b>Aa<sub>1</sub></b> and <b>Aa<sub>2</sub></b> .
	<i>Fimbria</i>	<b>Bb</b> .
Linnaeus, 1767	<i>Aplysia</i>	<b>A</b> .
	or <i>Laplysia</i>	
	<i>L. depilans</i>	<i>T. limacina</i> and <i>T. leporina</i> L. 1758, and <i>Lernaea</i> Bohadsch, 1761, see above.
	<i>Tethys</i>	<b>B</b> .
	<i>T. leporina</i>	<b>Bb</b> .
	<i>T. fimbria</i>	<b>Bb</b> .

Thus we get *Tethys* for genus **A**. The species **Aa<sub>1</sub>** could be called *T. leporina* Linnaeus, 1758 (based only on the fact that the figure of Rondelet shows no shell foramen and has no broadly united parapodia; although it is probably **Aa<sub>1</sub>**, this is not certain). For **Aa<sub>2</sub>** we have *Tethys depilans* (Linnaeus, 1767, by exclusion of *T. limacina* and *T. leporina*. For **B** we get some later name and for **b** the specific trivial name *fimbria* Linnaeus, 1767. A strict application of the *Règles* results in two certain names only, *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758, for **A** and the trivial name *fimbria* Linnaeus, 1767, for **b**.

The strict application of the *Règles* becomes the more undesirable since there is an enormous literature on these animals in which the names used are of Linnaeus, 1767, and not those of Linnaeus, 1758.

#### Further History of the Names up to 1823.

Poiret, 1789, *Voyage en Barbarie* 2 : 2, correctly describes the species **Aa<sub>1</sub>** under the name *Laplysia fasciata*, saying that it differs from *L. depilans*. I have shown above that *L. depilans* comprised both

**Aa<sub>1</sub>** and **Aa<sub>2</sub>**. Here Poiret makes a choice and designates **Aa<sub>1</sub>** as *Laplysia fasciata* nov., so that **Aa<sub>2</sub>** gets the name [*L*] *Aplysia depilans*.

Gmelin, 1791, *Systema Naturae* (ed. 13) : 3103, copies the diagnosis of *Laplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, but gives the right name *Aplysia*. He gives a diagnosis of *A. depilans* so that it is restricted to **Aa<sub>2</sub>** and adds *A. fasciata* (**Aa<sub>1</sub>**) as Poiret gives it.

Barbut, 1794, *Genera vermium* : 31 gives two figures of *Laplysia depilans* on plate 3. I have not seen this work, but according to Blochmann, 1884, *Mitt. zool. Staz. Neapel* 5 : 43, his *Laplysia depilans minor* is **Aa<sub>3</sub>** from the English coasts, while his *Laplysia depilans major* is **Aa<sub>2</sub>**, the real *A. depilans*.

Rathke, 1799, *Skr. nat. hist. Selsk.* 5 : 85, gives a description of an *Aplysia* from Christiansund (near the Trondhjemsfjord, not, as Pilsbry says, near Christiania). In the explanation of Tab. 3, fig. 12 he gives it the name *Aplysia rosea*. The *Aplysia* from the Norwegian coast is **Aa<sub>3</sub>**, which, for the first time, receives a name.

The first good zoological treatise on the genus *Aplysia* after Bohadsch is that of Cuvier, 1803, *Ann. Mus. Hist. nat., Paris* 2 : 287. Cuvier describes three new species of *Laplysia*, of which the first two, *L. camelus* and *L. alba*, both seem to belong to **Aa<sub>1</sub>**. The third, however, *Laplysia punctata*, which is **Aa<sub>3</sub>**, the *A. rosea* Rathke, 1799, is still known by Cuvier's name, although the older name of Rathke has precedence according to the *Règles*.

Renier, 1804, *Prospetto della Classe dei Vermi* : 22, describes the papillae of **Bb** under the name *Hydatis varia*, as worms attached to *Tethys leporina*. This is the beginning of a curious discussion but it was eventually proved that the so called "parasites" on the back of *Tethys* (**B**) were not worms, but the easily detachable papillae of this Nudibranch.

J. Sowerby, 1806, *British Miscellany* : 111, describes an English *Aplysia* as *A. hybrida*. This is a synonym of *A. punctata* Cuvier and *A. rosea* Rathke.

Cuvier, 1808, *Ann. Mus. Hist. nat. Paris* 12 : 257, in a memoir on *Tethys* which he spells *Thethys* (**B**), points out that the two species of Linnaeus are probably but one.

Rudolphi, 1819, *Entozoorum synopsis* : 573, gives *Hydatis varia* Renier, 1804, which he mistakenly calls *Hydatula varia*, the new name of *Phoenicurus varius*. Since the name of a part of an animal can be used for the whole animal, *Phoenicurus* would replace *Tethys* (**B**) but the name is antedated by *Phoenicurus* Forster, 1817, *Syn. Cat. Brit. Birds* : 16.

Otto, 1821, *Conspectus animalium . . . 1* : 294, gives a diagnosis of these papillae under the name *Vertumnus thetydicola*, and a full description with good figures in 1823, *Nova Acta Acad. Caes. Leop.* 11 : 294, pl. 41, where the name is spelled *Vertumnus thetidicola* in

the text and *thethydicola* on the plate. *Vertumnus* thus becomes the first generic name available under the Règles.

It is now possible to give a list of the names of the animals under discussion if the Règles are strictly applied, with the exclusion of Bohadsch's names, which have been suppressed by the Commission in *Opinion* 185 (1944, *Opinions and Declarations rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature* 3 : 37—52).

- A *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758 (although the diagnosis contains a mistake).
- a<sub>1</sub> *Laplysia fasciata* Poiret, 1789 (*Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1758 is an uncertain species).
- a<sub>2</sub> *Laplysia depilans* Linnaeus, 1767 (subsequent limitation by Poiret, 1789, and Gmelin, 1791).
- a<sub>3</sub> *Aplysia rosea* Rathke, 1799.
- B *Vertumnus* Otto, 1821.
- b *Tethys fimbria* Linnaeus, 1767.

#### Subsequent History of the Names.

For the species of *Aplysia*, Cuvier, 1817, *Règne animal* 2 : 398, seems to be the original from which the names *Aplysia fasciata* (Aa<sub>1</sub>), *A. depilans* (Aa<sub>2</sub>) and *A. punctata* (Aa<sub>3</sub>) have come into general use. Blochmann, 1884, *Mitt. zool. Staz. Neapel.* 5 : 28, in his excellent monograph on the APLYSIIDAE of the Gulf of Naples, unfortunately changed the name of Aa<sub>1</sub> to *A. limacina* Linnaeus, which is an indeterminate South Sea species. Consequently many (physiologists and others) have wrongly used this name for *A. fasciata*.

In 1895 Pilsbry, who was preparing his beautiful monograph on the APLYSIIDAE (Pilsbry, 1895—96, *Tryon's Manual of Conchology* 16 (62, 63) : 59—161) published a paper (*Proc. Acad. nat. Sci. Philad.* 1895 : 347) in which he pointed out that *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758, was an older name for *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, both being names for the genus *A.* Apparently as a concession to tradition, he called the family APLYSIIDAE. For the species a<sub>1</sub> he used the trivial name *leporina* Linnaeus, 1758, instead of *fasciata* Poiret, 1789. We have seen above that this name stood for Rondelet's first *Lepus marinus*. If this animal is a European animal—and there is some reason to suppose it to be—and if his picture is right in showing no mantle foramen and no broadly united parapodia, then, *per exclusionem*, we may regard this animal as Ad<sub>1</sub> and therefore as *Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1758, only with a mark of interrogation. Moreover, the name *Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1767, is so widely known and so generally used for the species Bb that it seems a source of hopeless confusion to adopt it for Aa<sub>1</sub>. Fortunately, in the forty years since Pilsbry's publication, although it is the leading monograph on the family, only a small minority of taxonomists has adopted his names. I have examined the literature and find that at least 412 authors (including 180 since 1895)

have used *Aplysia* as the name for genus A, while only 36 authors have used the name *Tethys* for that genus. At least 130 authors have used *Tethys* for genus B. Most of the authors who use *Tethys* for genus A still retain the familiar name APLYSIIDAE for the family. Von Jhering at first followed Pilsbry but later (1922, *Abh. Arch. Molluskenk.* 1 : 1) used *Aplysia* for genus A and *Tethys* for genus B, arguing that in a general publication it is necessary to use the names as they are known to the general reader. Thiele too at first follows Pilsbry, but in his important *Handbuch der Syst. Weichtierkunde* 1 (2) : 395, 447 published in 1931 he used *Aplysia* for genus A and *Tethys* for genus B. Odhner, Pruvot and Eales are among the more important recent writers who use *Aplysia* for A.

The species Aa<sub>1</sub> can only be called *Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1758, if the first species of Rondelet is Aa<sub>1</sub>, about which there seems to be some doubt, or rather, the certainty is not 100 per cent. There is also the confusion that the name *Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1767, has been widely used for the species Bb. If this name is rejected, the species Aa<sub>1</sub> must be called *Tethys* (or *Aplysia* if this name is placed on the *Official List*) *fasciata* Poiret, 1789. Blochmann and others following him, as remarked above, have used the name *Aplysia limacina* Linnaeus, 1758, which is certainly wrong. I have listed 61 authors who use *A. fasciata* Poiret, 1789, 51 authors who use the erroneous *A. limacina* Linnaeus, 1758, and only 3, besides Pilsbry, who use *Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1758, for the species Aa<sub>1</sub>.

As regards the species Aa<sub>2</sub>, we have seen that *Aplysia depilans* Linnaeus, 1767, comprises all the species of that genus known to Linnaeus, notably the two species included in *Lernaea* Bohadsch, which are Aa<sub>1</sub> and Aa<sub>2</sub> respectively. Poiret, 1789, eliminated the species Aa<sub>1</sub> by describing it as *A. fasciata* and Gmelin, 1791, restricted the name *A. depilans* to the species Aa<sub>2</sub>. All subsequent authors (111 publications) have accepted the name as thus restricted.

The third species (Aa<sub>3</sub>) was first named *A. rosea* Rathke, 1799 and, by the *Règles*, should bear that name, but it is almost universally known (92 publications) as *A. punctata* Cuvier, 1803 while *A. rosea* has been used only in four publications since Rathke.

The controversy regarding the parasitic nature of the dorsal papillae of *Tethys* (genus B) was settled when Vérany, 1842, *Isis* 4 : 252 and Krohn, 1842, *Arch. Anat. Physiol. Lpz.* : 418 showed that they were really papillae and not parasitic worms, as they had been regarded previously. Strictly, the name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, cannot be applied to genus B and *Vertumnus* Otto, 1821, should be used. Actually 130 authors who treat of the complete animal have used the name *Tethys* and only 7 some other name. There is but one species known (Bb), although Linnaeus, only knowing the animal from literature, formed two species, *T. leporina* Linnaeus, 1767 (not of 1758) and *T. fimbria* Linnaeus, 1767. Both names are used, *T. leporina* being used for species Bb in 78 papers, while 38 authors prefer *T.*

*fimbria* (or *fimbriata* as sometimes wrongly written), presumably because of Linnaeus' earlier use of *T. leporina* for a species of genus A.

### Conclusion and Recommendations.

The foregoing analysis shows very clearly that nothing but confusion would arise if an attempt were made strictly to apply the *Règles* to the two genera to which I have referred as genus A and genus B respectively or to the four species to which I have referred as Aa<sub>1</sub>, Aa<sub>2</sub>, Aa<sub>3</sub> and Bb respectively. It is perfectly clear also that the present state of uncertainty and diversity of practice will continue unchecked until such time as the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature puts a stop to these difficulties by using their Plenary Powers to stabilise the generic and specific nomenclature of the species concerned.

To the above end I now submit to the International Commission the following recommendations :—

- (1) that, under suspension of the *Règles*, the following names be suppressed :—
  - (a) the generic name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 653, and the use of this generic name by any author prior to the publication of the 12th edition of Linnaeus' *Syst. Nat.* ;
  - (b) the following specific names :—
    - (i) *Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 653 ;
    - (ii) *Tethys limacina* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 653 ;
    - (iii) *Laplysia depilans* Linnaeus, 1767, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12) 1(2) : 1082 ;
    - (iv) all uses of the name *depilans* in the genus *Aplysia* (or *Laplysia*) prior to such use by Gmelin in the 13th edition of Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.* ;
    - (v) *Aplysia rosea* Rathke, 1799, *Skr. nat. Hist. Selsk* 5 : 85 ;
- (2) that the name *Laplysia* Linnaeus, 1767 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12)1(2) : 1082) be emended to *Aplysia* ;
- (3) that, under suspension of the *Règles* :—
  - (a) the generic name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12) 1(2) : 1089) be validated ;
  - (b) the following specific names be validated :—
    - (i) *Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1767, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12) 1(2) : 1089 ;
    - (ii) *Aplysia fasciata* Poiret, 1789, *Voy. Barbare* 2 : 2 ;

- (iii) *Aplysia depilans* Gmelin, 1791, in Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 13) 1 : 3103 ;
- (iv) *Laplysia punctata* Cuvier, 1803, *Ann. Mus. Hist. nat.*, Paris 2 : 310 ;
- (c) all type selections for *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, and *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, made prior to the proposed *Opinion* to be set aside and the types of these genera to be designated as follows :—
  - Aplysia depilans* Gmelin, 1791, to be the type of the genus *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767 ;
  - Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1767, to be the type of the genus *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767<sup>2</sup> ;
- (4) that the generic names *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, and *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, so validated and with the above species as their respective types, be added to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*.

## II.—THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE PRESENT CASE PRIOR TO THE RECEIPT OF DR. ENGEL'S APPLICATION IN 1934

2. The problem dealt with in the present *Opinion* was first brought to the attention of the International Commission through the inclusion of *Aplysia* in a long list of "Nomina Conservanda" submitted in August 1915 by the late Professor Carl Apstein (*Berlin*), a Member of the Commission, for validation *en bloc* under the Plenary Powers. This list had at that time recently been published in Berlin (Apstein, 1915, *SitzBer. Ges. naturforsch. Freunde Berlin* 1915 (No. 5) : 119—202). The proposal submitted in regard to this particular case (: 182) was that the Commission should use its Plenary Powers to validate the generic name *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, with *Laplysia depilans* Linnaeus, 1767, as type species.

3. In 1922 the International Commission in *Opinion* 74 (*Smithson. misc. Coll.* 73 (No. 1) : 32—34) rejected Professor Apstein's proposal on the ground that it had no power to use its

<sup>2</sup> For the subsequent modification by Dr. Engel of this proposal in the light of the statement later furnished by the Nomenclature Committee of the Malacological Society of London (paragraph 11), see paragraph 13.

Plenary Powers, except in relation to individual cases for which full data were supplied. At the same time the Commission indicated its willingness to consider names included in Professor Apstein's list, if submitted separately with "reasonably complete evidence".

4. In a different aspect this case was brought before the International Commission again in March 1924 when the then Secretary (the late Dr. C. W. Stiles) submitted to it—in Circular Letter 78—a proposal by Professor Apstein for the validation under the Plenary Powers of the names of a number of genera of Molluscs. Although stated at the time to be derived from the list submitted in 1915 (paragraph 2 above), the list submitted in 1924 was much shorter than its predecessor and the proposals submitted were not in all cases the same. In the list of 1924 the name *Aplysia* Linnaeus was omitted, but the name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758, made its appearance, the request in this case being that the Commission should use its Plenary Powers to designate *Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1758, as its type species. In 1926 it was decided to give public notice of the possible use of the Plenary Powers in relation to the generic names contained in the list of 1924.

5. The publication of the foregoing notice in the serial publication *Nature* elicited two comments in regard to the present case, the first, from Miss Nellie B. Eales (*Reading University, Reading, England*), the second, from Dr. H. Engel (*Zoologisch Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands*). The general tenor of these communications was the same: Miss Eales (letter of 17th June 1924) expressed the view that the name *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, should be retained for the Sea Hare, and so also did Dr. Engel (letters of 8th September 1926 and 10th January 1927). In the second of these letters Dr. Engel wrote: "Strictly applied, the Rules of Nomenclature require that the name *Tethys* L., 1758, be used for the well known Tectibranch Molluscs, the sea-hares of the Mediterranean (commonly called *Aplysia* L., 1767). The equally well-known Nudibranchiate Mollusc with the mouth-sail (commonly called *Tethys* L., 1767) has to be called *Vertumnus* Otto, 1823. But the names *Aplysia* L., 1767, for the Tectibranchiates and *Tethys* L., 1767, for the Nudibranchiates are so generally used in all textbooks and manuals of zoology



and in all physiological and anatomical scientific contributions that the change of names would cause great confusion !”

6. On receipt of the first of these communications, Dr. Stiles consulted Dr. Paul Bartsch (*Curator of Mollusks and Cenozoic Invertebrates, Smithsonian Institution, United States National Museum, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.*), who on 12th August 1924 replied as follows :—

Pilsbry has so beautifully handled this subject in a paper entitled “On the status of the names *Aplysia* and *Tethys*”, in the Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, 1895, pages 347 to 350, that there is no room for further discussion.

Your correspondent is evidently quoting from memory and has certain sentimental notions about these names, which have no status in the Nomenclature.

7. This question was again placed by the Secretary before Dr. Bartsch on receipt of Dr. Engel’s letter of 10th January 1927 (paragraph 5 above). Dr. Bartsch, in replying on 28th April 1928, expressed regret at the delay which had occurred and then proceeded as follows :—

Again I wish to say that personally I am disinclined to tamper with the rules. These groups are so small that it does not make a bit of difference really what name is used. It is just a question of deciding upon it and doing it. You cannot change the past synonymy. That will always arrange itself under whatever ruling is adopted. Every exception opens another door for more exceptions, and I am “agin” it.

### III.—THE HISTORY OF THE CASE SUBSEQUENT TO THE RECEIPT OF DR. ENGEL’S APPLICATION

8. On some date in 1934 Dr. Engel’s lengthy application, which (as has been explained in paragraph 1 of the present *Opinion*) was later summarised by Mr. Winckworth for consideration by the Commission was received in the Offices of the Commission, and on 22nd October of that year Dr. Stiles, then Secretary to the Commission wrote to Dr. Henry A. Pilsbry. (*Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.*) stating that he had received a sixty-one page

manuscript on this case from Dr. Engel, and asking for his views on "a suspension of the rules in this case, in order not to upset the literature too much". Dr. Pilsbry on 25th October 1934 acknowledged Dr. Stiles' letter as follows :—

I have received Engel's exhaustive and learned paper on *Aplysia* vs. *Tethys* and given it a cursory once-over. I am inclined to advocate the suspension of the rules in such cases, in general ; but I do not see the way clear to endorse all of the recommendations Engel makes for generic and specific nomenclature of the two genera involved, as they are all dead against the rules . . . However, I will give it careful consideration.

9. It was not possible for the International Commission's Secretariat to deal with so long a paper as the submitted by Dr. Engel, and accordingly on 16th November 1934 Dr. Stiles advised Dr. Engel to arrange for the publication of his paper. Acting on this suggestion, Dr. Engel submitted his paper to the serial publication *Temminckia* in which it was published under the title "On the names of the genera *Tethys* and *Aplysia*" in the early part of 1936 (*Temminckia*, 1 : 221—266). As so published, this application was re-submitted by Dr. Engel on 27th June 1936.

10. This case was not included in the Agenda for the Session of the International Commission held in Lisbon in 1935 and no further action had been taken in regard to it at the time when, following the election of Mr. Francis Hemming to be Secretary to the International Commission, the papers relating to this and other current cases were transferred to his care in 1938. On receipt, the paper relating to this case was then given the Registered Number Z.N.(S.)22. It had not been found possible to make any further progress with this case when in September 1939 the records of the Commission were evacuated from London to the country as a precaution against the risk of destruction through air raids. The Secretariat in London was re-opened in 1942 and steps were immediately taken to establish the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* as a means for bringing to the attention of zoologists applications submitted to the International Commission for decision. Work was at once started on outstanding applications with a view to arranging for the publication in the newly established *Bulletin*. Even after the establishment of the *Bulletin*,

the handling of this case presented serious difficulties, for it would clearly have been impossible to devote nearly fifty pages of that new periodical to the publication of a single paper at a time when large numbers of much shorter applications were awaiting publication and, owing to paper rationing, shortage of labour at the printing works and similar causes, great delays in publication were being experienced. This difficulty was finally overcome by an arrangement under which, in agreement with Dr. Engel, the late Mr. R. Winckworth, who was personally interested to promote the reaching of a decision in this case, kindly undertook to prepare a summary of Dr. Engel's paper. The summary prepared by Mr. Winckworth was, on its receipt, submitted to Dr. Engel by whom it was approved. After further correspondence between the Secretary and Dr. Engel on questions of presentation and form, the terms of the application were finally settled on 4th February 1948. The summary so prepared by Mr. Winckworth was constituted the "Statement of the Case" for the purposes of the International Commission and has been given in paragraph 1 of the present *Opinion*.

11. When in 1944 he was first invited by the Secretary to prepare for the consideration of the International Commission a summary of the paper on this case which before the war had been published in *Temminckia*, Mr. Winckworth considered it desirable to seek the views of the Nomenclature Committee of the Malacological Society of London on the recommendations submitted to the Commission by Dr. Engel. Mr. Winckworth accordingly prepared an abstract of those proposals which were considered by the Nomenclature Committee of the Society at a meeting held on 10th November 1944. On 19th November 1944 Mr. Winckworth communicated the following statement setting out the conclusions reached by the Committee :—

THE NAMES *APLYSIA* AND *TETHYS* (CLASS GASTROPODA):  
STATEMENT OF THE VIEWS OF THE NOMENCLATURE  
COMMITTEE OF THE MALACOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF  
LONDON.

(Communicated by R. Winckworth)

Dr. H. Engel's paper on the names *Tethys* and *Aplysia* (Engel, 1936, *Temminckia* 1 : 221—266) was considered by the Nomenclature

Committee of the Malacological Society of London on 10th November, 1944. An abstract of the questions at issue had previously been circulated. Four members<sup>1</sup> of the Committee were present at the discussion; Dr. N. B. Eales and Dr. K. White attended and gave evidence.

With one exception (the use of *Tethys leporina*) Dr. Engel's proposals were unanimously supported by those present. It was resolved to recommend:—

- (i) the adoption of *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, and *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, as nomina conservanda<sup>2</sup>; and the suppression of *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758;
- (ii) the adoption of *Aplysia depilans* Linnaeus, 1767 (as restricted by Gmelin, 1791), *A. fasciata* Poirer, 1789, and *A. punctata* Cuvier, 1803; and the suppression of *Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1758, and *Aplysia rosea* Rathke, 1799;
- (iii) the adoption of *Tethys fimbria* Linnaeus, 1767; and the suppression of *T. leporina* Linnaeus, 1767<sup>3</sup>.

It should be added that the two members<sup>4</sup> of the Committee not present at the meeting both dissent from resolutions (i) and (ii), but agree to resolution (iii). They wrote recommending strict application of the Règles and the use of *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758, for *Aplysia* and *Vertumnus* Otto, 1821, for *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767.

12. On 14th September 1947 a notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was issued to the serial publications prescribed by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology, Monaco, 1913. The publication of this notice elicited no objections to the proposed stabilisation of the names *Tethys* and *Aplysia* for use in the sense commonly attached to those names.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. A. T. Hopwood (*Chairman*), Dr. L. R. Cox, A. S. Kennard, R. Winckworth (*Secretary*).

<sup>2</sup> *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12) 1 : 1072 (*Aplysia*), 1082 (*Laplysia* in error) is monotypical with type *Laplysia depilans* Linnaeus, 1767 (Gastropoda Opisthobranchia, Order Aplysiomorpha). *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12) 1 : 1072 (*Tethis* in error), 1089 (*Tethys*), type *T. fimbria* Linnaeus, 1767, designated by Gray, 1847, as *T. fimbriata* (Gastropoda Opisthobranchia, Order Nudibranchia). It is virtually monotypical, since the two original specific names, *T. leporina* and *T. fimbria* refer to the same species. For other references see Engel's paper.

<sup>3</sup> The use of the name *Tethys leporina* is likely to cause confusion, since it has been applied to animals of two different Orders of Mollusca, not only by Linnaeus, in 1758 and 1767, but also by recent authors.

<sup>4</sup> A. E. Salisbury, J. R. le B. Tomlin.

13. In November 1947 the Secretary to the Commission sent to Dr. Engel a copy of the statement furnished by the Nomenclature Committee of the Malacological Society of London (paragraph 11 above), asking him to consider the possibility of modifying his proposals on the one question where he and the members of the Committee were in disagreement, namely whether, as advocated by Engel, the nominal species *Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1767, should be designated as the type species of *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, or whether, as advocated by the Nomenclature Committee, the nominal species *Tethys fimbria* Linnaeus, 1767, should be so designated. On 4th February 1948 Dr. Engel replied as follows, giving his support to the course recommended by the Committee :—

Although it is my opinion, as expressed in my paper published in *Temminckia* in 1936, that the choice of the name *Tethys leporina* Linnaeus, 1767, for the type species of the genus *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, is to be preferred to the name *Tethys fimbria* Linnaeus, 1767, owing to its having been used by so many and such prominent authors, I now adopt the suggestion of the Nomenclature Committee of the Malacological Society of London that the latter name should now be approved by the International Commission. The use of the name *Tethys leporina* might, I agree, cause confusion in view of the fact that Pilsbry (1896) used that name for the species known as *Aplysia fasciata*. Moreover, I consider that the course now proposed is a due honour to that eminent zoologist Bohadsch who in 1761 proposed the name *Fimbria*, a name which, however, the International Commission found it necessary (in *Opinion* 185) to suppress, in common with all other names proposed in Bohadsch's work, in order to avoid the confusion which would have followed the acceptance of that work.

#### IV.—THE DECISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

14. The present application was considered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature at the Eleventh Meeting of its Paris Session held at the Sorbonne in the Amphithéâtre Louis-Liard on Monday, 26th July 1948, at 0930 hours. The following is an extract from the portion of the Official Record of the Proceedings of the International Commission

setting out (1) the discussion which took place on the present application at the foregoing meeting, and (2) the decision then reached on it by the Commission (Paris Session, 11th Meeting, Conclusion 27) (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 301—304) :—

THE COMMISSION had under consideration a proposal (file Z.N.(S)22) submitted by Dr. H. Engel (Netherlands) that the Commission should use their Plenary Powers to validate the long established usage of the generic names *Tethys* and *Aplysia* (Class Gastropoda), to designate the type species of those genera in a manner which would eliminate all further possibility of confusion in regard to the foregoing names, and take certain other action incidental thereto.

In the discussion on this proposal, the view was generally expressed that a decision on this case was long overdue, both because of the importance of the names concerned and because of the excessive delays which had occurred in the handling of this case by the Commission.

COMMISSIONER H. BOSCHMA (NETHERLANDS) said that he shared the general view that a decision ought now to be taken by the Commission for stabilising the usage of the names *Tethys* and *Aplysia* ; he pointed out however that the application submitted asked also for decisions in regard to certain specific trivial names which were not directly concerned with the main problem at issue. He suggested that the Commission should deal as proposed with the names *Tethys* and *Aplysia* but that they should defer taking decisions regarding the portion of the application which related to specific trivial names not directly involved in the stabilisation of the foregoing generic names.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT (MR. FRANCIS HEMMING) said that it would be impossible to deal with the generic names *Tethys* and *Aplysia* without at the same time dealing with the associated question of the trivial names of the species to be designated as the type species of those genera. The question of the trivial names of the other species dealt with in the present

application could however be dealt with separately at a later stage, although the adoption of this course would offend against the canon suggested by Commissioner Boschma in another case that the Commission should in future carefully abstain from their former practice of giving answers to a part only of any given application submitted to them for decision.

IN FURTHER DISCUSSION it was generally agreed that the questions submitted in the present application in regard to certain specific trivial names, other than those of the species to be specified as the type species of the genera *Tethys* and *Aplysia* might properly be deferred for later consideration, provided, first, that these matters were brought to a decision as soon as possible after the close of the present Session, and, second, that the postponement of a decision on this part of the application submitted should not be held available to be cited as a precedent for similar action on any future occasion.

THE COMMISSION agreed :—

- (1) that under Article 19 of the *Règles* the spelling of the generic name *Laplysia* Linnaeus, 1767 was to be emended to *Aplysia* ;
- (2) to use their Plenary Powers :—
  - (a) to suppress for all purposes the generic name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758, and any other use of that name, prior to the publication of the generic name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767 ;
  - (b) to suppress, for all purposes, other than those of Article 35, the use of the genus *Tethys* Linnaeus 1767, of the specific trivial names *leporina* and *limacina* ;
  - (c) to suppress all uses of the specific trivial name *depilans* in the genus *Aplysia* (emend. of *Laplysia*) Linnaeus, 1767, prior to its publication in the combination *Aplysia depilans* by Gmelin in 1791 ;
  - (d) to validate the generic name *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767 ;

(e) to validate the undermentioned trivial names and to direct that those names were to be used in preference to any other trivial names for the species respectively concerned :—

(i) the trivial name *depilans* as published in the binominal combination *Aplysia depilans* by Gmelin in 1791 ;

(ii) the trivial name *fimbria* as published in the binominal combination *Tethys fimbria* by Linnaeus in 1767 ;

(f) to set aside all type selections for the genera *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, and *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767 made prior to the present decision, and to direct that the type species of these genera shall be the species specified below :—

<i>Name of genus</i>	<i>Type species</i>
<i>Aplysia</i> Linnaeus, 1767	<i>Aplysia depilans</i> Gmelin, 1791
<i>Tethys</i> Linnaeus, 1767	<i>Tethys fimbria</i> Linnaeus, 1767

(3) to place on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* the generic names *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, and *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767 (Class Gastropoda, Order Opisthobranchiata) with the type species severally specified above, and on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology* the specific trivial names *depilans* Gmelin, 1791 (as published in the binominal combination *Aplysia depilans*) and *fimbria* Linnaeus, 1767 (as published in the binominal combination *Tethys fimbria* ;

(4) without prejudice to the general principle that decisions should be given by the Commission on all questions raised in any given application and on the strict understanding that the action now to be taken should not be held available to be cited on any future occasion as a precedent in favour of dilatory procedure, to postpone for further consideration the question of fixing, under the plenary powers, the identity of the species to which the undermentioned specific trivial names should apply :—

*fasciata* Poiret, 1789 (as published in the binominal combination *Aplysia fasciata* Poiret, 1789 ;



*punctata* Cuvier, 1803 (as published in the binominal combination *Laplysia* [sic] *punctata* Cuvier, 1803 ;

- (5) to request the Secretary to the Commission to re-submit the portion of Dr. Engel's application relating to the names specified in (4) as soon as possible after the close of the present Session, with a view to a decision being taken by the Commission thereon without further delay ;
- (6) to render an *Opinion* setting out the decisions specified in (1) to (5) above.

15. The following are the original references for the names which appear in the decision set out in the immediately preceding paragraph :—

- Aplysia* (emend. of *Laplysia*) Linnaeus, 1767, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12) 1(2) : 1082
- depilans*, *Laplysia*, Linnaeus, 1767, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12) 1(2) : 1082
- depilans*, *Aplysia*, Linnaeus, 1791, in Linnaeus, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 13) 1 : 3103
- fimbria*, *Tethys*, Linnaeus, 1767, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12) 1(2) : 1089
- Laplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12) 1(2) : 1082
- leporina*, *Tethys*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 653
- limacina*, *Tethys*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 653
- Tethys* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 653
- Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12) 1(2) : 1089

16. The genders of the generic names *Aplysia* Linnaeus, 1767, and *Tethys* Linnaeus, 1767, referred to in the decision quoted in paragraph 14 are feminine.

17. The decision taken in the present case was reported to, and approved by, the Section on Nomenclature of the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948, at its Third Meeting held on 26th July 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 5 : 94).

18. The Ruling given in the present *Opinion* was concurred in by the sixteen (16) Commissioners and Alternate Commissioners present at the Paris Session of the International Commission, namely :—

Beltrán *vice* Cabrera ; Boschma ; Bradley ; di Caporiacco ; Hemming ; Hindle *vice* Jordan ; Jorge *vice* do Amaral ; Kirby *vice* Stoll ; Lemche *vice* Dymond ; Mansour *vice* Hankó ; Metcalf *vice* Peters ; Riley *vice* Calman ; Rode ; Spärck *vice* Mortensen ; van Straelen *vice* Richter ; Usinger *vice* Vokes.

19. The Ruling given in the present *Opinion* was dissented from by no Commissioner or Alternate Commissioner present at the Paris Session.

20. At the time of the adoption of the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*, the expression prescribed for the second portion of the binomen which constitutes the scientific name of a species was the expression “trivial name” and the *Official List* reserved for recording such names was styled the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*, the word “trivial” appearing also in the title of the *Official Index* reserved for recording rejected and invalid names of this category. Under a decision taken by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, the expression “specific name” was substituted for the expression “trivial name” and corresponding changes were made in the titles of the *Official List* and *Official Index* of such names (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 21). The changes in terminology so adopted have been incorporated in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

21. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

22. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion Two Hundred (200)* of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London this Sixteenth day of November, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Three.

*Secretary to the International Commission  
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING

